

# What the Cross Teaches Us

## Pt.2



**1 Corinthians 1:18-25**

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- Last week we began a study of The Cross, specifically “What the Cross Teaches Us.”
- We set out to examine What the Cross Teaches Us People.
- We determined that the Cross teaches us that the cross:

# What the Cross Teaches Us

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1. Declares Mankind's Guilt
2. Declares Mankind's Helplessness
3. Declares the Necessity of Mankind's Obedience
4. Declares the Necessity of Sacrificial Living

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- Mankind stands before the cross with the full realization of our role in crucifying the Savior and our need to pick up our cross and follow after him.
- The Cross, however, is not finished speaking to us, and it has much more to say concerning our Creator, Sustainer, Protector, Savior, and God.

# What The Cross Teaches Us About God



# What the Cross Teaches Us

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### 1. The Cross Declares The Basis of Our Hope

We do not exist upon this earth with the hope of living forever.

This does not mean that we cannot live forever.

The Bible declares that Saints/Christians/The Elect/God's Children - live in hope of eternal life.

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And Jesus answered and said, Verily I say unto you, There is no man that hath left house, or brethren, or sisters, or father, or mother, or wife, or children, or lands, for my sake, and the gospel's, But he shall receive an hundredfold now in this time, houses, and brethren, and sisters, and mothers, and children, and lands, with persecutions; and in the world to come eternal life.

**~ Mark 10:29-30**

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And this is the promise that he hath promised us, eternal life.

**~ 1 John 2:25**

Paul, a servant of God, and an apostle of Jesus Christ, according to the faith of God's elect, and the acknowledging of the truth which is after godliness; In hope of eternal life, which God, that cannot lie, promised before the world began.

**~ Titus 1:1-2**



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- It is only because of the Cross that we can even hope to have eternal life, that it is even a possibility.

*Let us hold fast the confession  
of **our hope** without wavering, for He who  
promised **is faithful**.*

**~ Hebrews 10:23**

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### 2. The Cross Declares God's Righteousness.

The Cross, as we established last week, says to each and every one of us, **“You Are Guilty”**

Furthermore, It says to everyone of us, **“Something Must Be Done About Your Guilt.”**

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Being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, whom God set forth *as* a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus. ~ **Romans 3:24-26**

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### 3. The Cross Declares God's Power to Save

While it is true that that the cross declares us all guilty, and while it is true that the cross declares to us God's righteousness demands payment for sin...

The Cross joyfully declares to us, **“God Can Do Something About Your Sin.”**

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Moreover, brethren, I declare to you the gospel which I preached to you, which also you received and in which you stand, by which also you are saved, if you hold fast that word which I preached to you—unless you believed in vain. For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures.

**~ 1 Corinthians 15:1-4**

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For what the law could not do in that it was weak through the flesh, God *did* by sending His own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, on account of sin: He condemned sin in the flesh.

~ Romans 8:3

Not Only **CAN** God Do Something About Our Sin...He **DID!!!**

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### 4. The Cross Declares God's Gracious Offer.

The Cross Declares To Us, **“God will wipe away every shred of guilt from sin, if you heed Him, love Him, and obey Him.”**

We See This Offer Made Several Times in the New Testament.

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For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age.

~ **Titus 2:11-12**



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But we see Jesus, who was made a little lower than the angels, for the suffering of death crowned with glory and honor, that He, by the grace of God, might taste death for everyone.

~ **Hebrews 2:9**

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And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

~ **John 3:14-16**

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### 5. The Cross Declares God's Love for Mankind

The Cross is the greatest declaration of God's Love toward Mankind.

He gave up Himself, His perfect, sinless Son, to die for sins He never committed.

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But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

~ **Romans 5:8**

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In this the love of God was manifested toward us, that God has sent His only begotten Son into the world, that we might live through Him. In this is love, not that we loved God, but that He loved us and sent His Son *to be* the propitiation for our sins.

~ **1 John 4:9-10**

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### 6. The Cross Declares Victory Over Death

The greatest thing in this life that can ever be taken from you...is your life.

This is why we hear so often when a soldier is killed in battle that they have made the “Ultimate Sacrifice” for their country.

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- It is because there is nothing greater, nothing more that they can physically give or have physically taken than their lives.
- Today we have memorials, statues and pictures built and placed to honor those who have selflessly given themselves for our freedom.

# Vietnam War Memorial





# The Marine Corp War Memorial



September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001





# 9/11 Memorial



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- In this life there is no greater sacrifice that can be made than to give your life for someone.

***Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends.***

**~ John 15:13**

These memorials exist because we cannot nor should we ever forget the sacrifices that have been made for us.

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- Imagine the disciples who went home after the Lord was removed from the cross and laid in Joseph of Arimathea's tomb.
- Seeing the Lord battered and killed...probably believing it was all over.
- Imagine the laughter of Satan who believed He had won, that the Savior of the World was dead.

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- However, there is no tomb that we can go and visit
- No memorial except the one we partake in every week around the Lord's table in the shadow of the Cross of Calvary.
- Why? Because Christ did not stay dead, he paid for our sins and then defeated death by rising three days later.

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**He is not here; for He is risen, as He said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay.**

**~ Matthew 28:6**

But **he** said to them, “Do **not** be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. **He is risen! He is not here.** See the place where they laid Him.

**~ Mark 16:6**

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**He is not here, but is risen!** Remember how **He** spoke to you when **He** was still in Galilee.

~ Luke 24:6



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- The Cross tells us that no matter what, the most that anyone can do, including Satan himself, is to take your physical life.
- However, because of Christ (**1 Corinthians 15:20-24**) we know that we will not stay dead (**1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**) that we will be raised just like Christ (**1 Corinthians 15:50-52**).

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- It is why Jesus could declare:

*And **do not fear those** who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather **fear Him** who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell.*

~ **Matthew 10:28**

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- This is why we partake of the Lord's Supper every first day of the week (**Acts 20:7**), Because the Cross says to us that we cannot afford to forget what it cost to make us Spiritually Free.
- May God Forbid that ever take any of these for granted.

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### 7. The Cross Tells Us That God Has Already Won.

Satan's fate is ultimately sealed, God has won because of Christ, because of the Cross, because of the empty tomb:

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*Then He will also say to those on **the** left hand,  
'Depart from Me, you cursed,  
into **the** everlasting fire prepared  
for **the devil and his angels**.*

~ **Matthew 25:41**

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- **However, because of the Cross, Your fate is not:**

**The Cross Declares to each and every one of us that**

- 1. God has given us hope.**
- 2. God is righteous but fair toward us.**
- 3. God has the power to save us.**
- 4. God has offered to save us.**
- 5. That God loves us.**
- 6. God has defeated death itself for us.**
- 7. That God has already defeated Satan and Sin.**

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- You have the choice this morning, right here, right now to decide if you will accept God's offer to remove your sin and guilt and be free...
- Or you can reject Him, shun the Cross of Calvary and deem yourself unworthy eternal life (**Acts 13:46**).

# **This Morning Will You Come To The Cross**

**Come to Me, all *you* who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.**

**~ Matthew 28:11**

**And Have Your Sins Forgiven?**